

- 24.** In a computing environment, a method comprising:
- a package generation process that builds a package containing files and settings; and
 - a package file creation process that creates a package file from the package by associating information with the package to describe the contents of the package, the information including component relationship information.
- 25.** The system of claim 24 wherein the package file creation process associates the information with the package by adding a device manifest file and the package to the package file.
- 26.** The system of claim 24 wherein the component relationship information describes a dependency on another entity.
- 27.** The system of claim 26 wherein the other entity is another package.

28. The system of claim 24 wherein the component relationship information describes a shadow relationship with another entity.

29. The system of claim 28 wherein the other entity is another package.

30. The system of claim 24 wherein the package generation process determines which files are executable files and performs a relocation process on the executable files.

31. The system of claim 24 wherein the package generation process determines which files are executable files and performs a relocation process on the executable files.

32. The method of claim 2 wherein the package generation process allows a distinction between at least some executable code and data such that at least some of the executable code is independent of any language.

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